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Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EB-11 AID-20 AF-10 ARA-11 EA-11 EUR-25

NEA-10 RSC-01 SPM-01 HEW-08 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 L-03 OMB-01 SS-15 NSC-10 CU-04 TRSE-00 PA-03

PRS-01 USIA-12 RSR-01 /182 W
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FM USMISSION USUN NY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7973

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 1811

E. O. 11652: NA
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SUBJ: 54 TH ECOSOC-- ITEM 12-- POPULATION

SUMMARY. ECONOMIC COMMITTEE GIVING DESIRABLE, THOROUGH AIRING TO POPULATION MATTERS. REPORT OF SPECIAL SESSION OF POPULATION COMMISSION INTRODUCED BY CARRILLO- FLORES, SECRETARY- GENERAL OF WOLD POPULATION CONFERENCE (WPC), WITH FAVORABLE REPORT ON BUCHAREST AS CONFERENCE SITE. RAFAEL SALAS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES (UNFPA), SUMMARIZED HIS REPORT (E/5266). RESOLUTION DEFINING UNFPA AIMS AND PURPOSES SPONSORED BY ELEVEN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES INCLUDING MALAYSIA WHOSE REPRESENTATIVE MADE EXCELLENT INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT. HE REJECTED SUGGESTION FOR INTERIM DECISION BY ECOSOC, AND, AFTER NOTING UNFPA WEAKNESSES AND STRENGTHS, CALLED FOR CLEAR, PROMPT ECOSOC ACTION TO GIVE DIRECTION AND TEETH SO THAT UNFPA CAN ELIMINATE WEAKNESSES AND ACT WITH EFFICIENCY. THROUGH 11 MAY, STATEMENTS BY NINETEEN COUNTRIES INDICATE NO OBJECTION TO BUCHAREST AS SITE FOR WPC, CON- TINUED STRONG SUPPORT FOR CARRILLO- FLLRES AND WPC AND FOR SALAS AND UNFPA, MAJORITY SUPPORT FOR RESOLUTION. SWEDISH DELEGATION HAVING LITTLE SUCCESS IN SEEKING
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SUPPORT MODIFIED RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD LIMIT UNFPA TO BEING FINANCIAL INSTITUTION AND MAKE ECOSOC DECISION ON UNFPA SUBJECT TO REVIEW AFTER WPC. END SUMMARY.

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1. PURSUANT TO POPULATION COMMISSION (POPCOM) REQUEST
THAT ECOSOC RECEIVE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM SECRETARY
GENERAL OF WPC ON A SITE FOR THE WPC, CARRILLO- FLORES
REPORTED ON HIS VISIT TO BUCHAREST IN RESPONSE TO A
ROMANIAN OFFER TO HOST THE WPC. HE SAID THAT PHYSICAL
AND COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES FOR MEETINGS AND LODGING
WERE ENTIRELY ADEQUATE FOR THE WPC AND
FOR NON- GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS. CARRILLO- FLORES
SAID HE HAD RECEIVED ASSURANCES OF FULL COOPERATION
FROM THE ROMANIAN GOVERNMENT INCLUDING PROVISION FOR
ADDITIONAL COSTS OF HOLDING THE WPC. HE HAD ASCERTAINED
THAT UN SECRETARIAT PERSONNEL AND FACILITIES COULD
BE AVAILABLE IN BUCHAREST 5-16 AUGUST, 1974 CARRILLO- FLORES
READ A LETTER FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
ROMANIA TO SECRETARY- GENERAL WALDHEIM FORMALLY OFFERING
TO HOST THE WPC IN BUCHAREST. CARRILLOR- FLORES
SAID HE BELIEVED A SUCCESSFUL WPC AND RELATED MEETINGS
COULD HE HELD IN BUCHAREST.

2. CARRILLO- FLORES ALSO REFERRED TO PREPARATIONS FOR
THE WPC INCLUDING THE WORLD POPULATION PLAN OF ACTION
(WPPA). HE SAID THE OBJECTIVES OF THE WPPA SHOULD BE
TO RAISE THE QUALITY OF LIFE ON EARTH AND THE WPPA
SHOULD REFLECT CONSENSUS AT THE WPC ALTHOUGH NOT NECES-
SARILY UNANIMITY.

3. RAFAEL SALAS INTRODUCED " REPORT ON THE EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR OF UNFPA IN CONSULTATION WITH THE ADMINISTRA-
TOR OF THE UNDP" (E/ 5266). HIS REMARKS (COPY BEING
POUCHED) REFERRED TO PROGRAM FORMULATION THAT RECOGNIZED
SOVEREIGNTY OF NATIONS, RIGHTS OF PARENTS TO DETERMINE
FAMILY SIZE AND TO OBTAIN NECESSARY INFORMATION AND
MEANS REQUIRED, RESPECT FOR WISHES OF GOVERNMENTS WITH
REGARD TO PROGRAM EXECUTION. HE NOTED THAT
UNFPA FINANCING WAS TO SUPPLEMENT RATHER THAN TO SUPPLANT
CONTRIBUTIONS BY GOVERNMENTS OR BY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS
PROVIDING SIMILAR ASSISTANCE. HE
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SAID THAT THE TREND TOWARD COMPREHENSIVE COUNTRY PROGRAMS
AND AWAY FROM SMALL PROJECTS FORESHADOWS THE SITUATION
WHERE RESPONSIBILITY FOR EXECUTION WILL LIE
MORE DIRECTLY WITH RECIPIENT GOVERNMENTS.

4. SALAS REPORTED CONTRIBUTIONS FROM 63 COUNTRIES,
THE MAJORITY BEING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. HE ALSO REPORTED
UNFPA RESPONSE TO REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE FROM 78
COUNTRIES, ALL IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD. AS EXAMPLES
OF UNFPA- SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES, SALAS CITED AFRICA
CENSUS PROGRAM AND ASSISTANCE TO CHILE TO EXTEND MATERNAL

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AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICES IN URBAN AND RURAL AREAS WHERE
THE OBJECTIVES ARE WELFARE OF CHILDREN AND, MOTHERS NOT
POPULATION CONTROL.

5. SALAS REFERRED TO THE THOROUGHNESS OF THE REVIEW
(MICHANEK) COMMITTEE STUDY OF UNFPA AND TO THE COM-
MITTEE' S RECOMMENDATIONS THAT WERE AN ANNEX TO E/5266.
HE SAID UNFPA WAS NOT URGING THE RECOMMENDATIONS ON
ECOSOC, BUT THAT HE THOUGHT IT PROPER TO DRAW ATTENTION
TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS.

6. STATEMENTS ON AGENDA ITEM 12 HAVE BEEN MADE BY NINE-
TEEN COUNTRIES THROUGH 11 MAY (CHILE, ARGENTINA,
MALAYSIA, NETHERLANDS, CHINA, CANADA, USSR, SPAIN, INDONESIA,
PHILIPPINES, JAPAN, YUGOSLAVIA, BRAZIL, POLAND, USA,
INDIA, ROMANIA, PAKISTAN, NEW ZEALAND). ADDITIONAL STATE-
MENTS EXPECTED 14 MAY. NO COUNTRY OBJECTED TO
BUCHAREST AS SITE FOR WPC. VIRTUALLY ALL STATEMENTS
PRAISED CARRILLO- FLORES AND WPC AS WELL AS SALAS, THE
UNFPA AND THE WORLD POPULATION YEAR (WPY). CHILE AND
ARGENTINA PRAISED CARRILLO- FLORES AND SALAS IN COURSE
OF OTHERWISE NEUTRAL, BRIEF COMMENTS.

7. MALAYSIAN REP, IN INTRODUCING DRAFT RES (E/ AC. 6/ L. 500)
WHICH HE CO- SPONSORED WITH TEN OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES,
PRAISED UNFPA FOR PERFORMANCE IN AREAS UNDER ITS CONTROL.
HE REFERRED TO BRIEFINGS AND OTHER EFFORTS BY UNFPA TO
PROVIDE INFORMATION ON ITS ACTIVITIES AND TO A POLICY
OF OPENNESS THAT IS HELPING TO " PENETRATE THE CURTAIN
OF WORDS"; HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THIS WOULD SERVE AS
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AN EXAMPLE TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS IN THE UN SYSTEM. HE CITED
UNFPA AS POLITICALLY ACCEPTABLE AND STRESSED THAT
THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE OF UNFPA PRESSURE ON ANY COUNTRY
TO ADOPT A POLICY OF ANY KIND. HE CALLED ATTENTION TO
CARRILLO- FLORES' COMMENT ON CLOSE COLLABORATION WITH
UNFPA, AND SAID UNFPA HAS IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE WPC AND
THE MAJOR RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE WPY. ALSO CALLED ATTENTION
TO LEADING ROLE OF UNFPA REFERRED TO IN GENERAL
ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 2815.

8. MALAYSIAN REP REFERRED TO DIFFICULTIES SUCH AS SLOW
RECRUITMENT AND INADEQUATE UNFPA GUIDANCE AND INSTRUCTIONS,
BUT SAID MOST SERIOUS PROBLEM WAS SLOW IMPLEMENTATION
MENT BY EXECUTING AGENCIES. QUOTED PARAS FROM REVIEW
COMMITTEE REPORT IN WHICH GOVERNMENTS COMPLAINED OF
LONG FUNDING DELAYS BY UN AGENCIES AND OF POOR COORDINA-
TION AMONG UN AGENCIES. SAID TO LARGE DEGREE THESE
MATTERS WERE OUTSIDE UNFPA' S ABILITY TO CONTROL UNDER
CURRENT POLICIES. SAID IT WAS CLEAR THAT ROLE OF UNFPA

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WAS GROWING STEADILY AND THIS MUST BE RECOGNIZED
BY ECOSOC WHICH SHOULD CARRY OUT ITS RESPONSIBILITY AND
POLICY FUNCTION BY ACTING NOW TO GIVE UNFPA THE " TEETH"
TO OPERATE. REJECTED VIEW THAT UNFPA SHOULD BE " PURELY
A FINANCING INSTITUTION" OR THAT ECOSOC SHOULD REACH
ONLY AN INTERIM DECISION. SAID ECOSOC SHOULD END " AD
HOCISM" AND INSTEAD LAY DOWN DIRECTION FOR UNFPA SO THAT
THE FUND CAN MOVE FORWARD AND WITH EFFICIENCY.
TO ACT OTHERWISE, HE STRESSED, WILL ONLY UNDERMINE DEVELOP-
MENT. MALAYSIA' S REP CONCLUDED THAT RES WHICH HE CO-
SPONSORED WOULD TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE NEW SITUATION. SAID
HE FELT THAT ECOSOC APPROVAL WOULD PROVIDE THE NECESSARY
DIRECTION AND ROLE FOR UNFPA TO OPERATE EFFECTIVELY .

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EB-11 AID-20 AF-10 ARA-11 EA-11 EUR-25

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9. IN ADDITION TO STATEMENTS BY OTHER CO- SPONSORS, SUPPORT
FOR THE RES WAS INDICATED IN STATEMENTS BY CANADA, JAPAN,
YUGOSLLAVIA, USA, AND N. Z. HETHERLANDS AND INDIA AGREED
GENERALLY WITH CONTENT OF RES BUT RESERVED RIGHT TO SPEAK
LATER. PAKISTAN SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS REFERRING TO GENERAL
ASSEMBLY AND ECOSOC POLICY AND TO NEED FOR FORM OF UNFPA
ASSISTANCE TO BE DETERMINED BY NATION CONCERNED.

10. USSR REP, IN BRIEF STATEMENT, SAID COULD NOT SUPPORT
RES BECAUSE ROLE PROPOSED FOR UNFPA MORE PROPERLY BELONGED
TO ECOSOC AND THAT AS MATTER OF PRINCIPLE USSR OPPOSED
ACTIONS THAT UNDERCUT ECOSOC. HE SAW NO REASON TO REVIEW
REPORT BY UNFPA AND SAID THERE WAS NO CHANGE IN THE
USSR DECISION NOT TO CONTRIBUTE TO UNFPA. (IN HOLPFUL
CONTRAST, INCREASED PLEDGES TO UNFPA WERE ANNOUNCED BY
PAKISTAN, YUGOSLAVIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.)

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11. SPAIN EXPRESSED MILD OPPOSITION TO RES. SPANISH DESIRE IS FOR REVERSAL OF ORDER OF UNFPA AIMS AND PURPOSES AND REWORDING TO INDICATE PRIORITY FOR BUILDING KNOWLEDGE OF POPULATION NEEDS.

12. BRAZIL REP MADE LENGTHY, CONFUSING STATEMENT. HE PRAISED CARRILLO- FLORES AND BUCHAREST AS SITE FOR WPC.
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HE EXPRESSED MIXED FEELINGS ABOUT UN INVOLVEMENT IN POPULATION MATTERS AND ABOUT THE WPC. HE SAID THAT IF WPC CONFINES ACTIVITIES TO EXCHANGING INFORMATION ALL WILL BE WELL, BUT HE FEARED PROPAGANDA ON POPULATION CONTRO L. HE SAID RECOGNIZING SOVEREIGNTY OF NATIONS IS IMPERATIVE AND WPPA MUST LEAVE DECISION TO NATIONS. BRAZIL' S POPULATION GROWTH, HE SAID, COMES FROM REDUCED INFANT MORALITY AND LONGER LIFE EXPECTANCY. HE CONTINUED TO POINT OUT THAT LARGE PORTION OF YOUTH IN A POPULATION CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW INDUSTRY. HE SAID GOVERNMENT OF BRAZIL WILL PROVIDE REQUIRED EDUCATION, SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES WHILE THE PEOPLE ARE FREE TO DECIDE ON FAMILY SIZE. DEVELOPED COUNTRIES SHOULD TRANSFER INDUSTRY TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES FOR IN THIS WAY THE ENVIRONMENT PROBLEMS IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WOULD BENEFIT AS WOULD DEVELOPMENT NEEDS OF OTHER COUNTRIES. HE SAID HE COULD NOT SUPPORT RES FOR SEVERAL REASONS, IMPORTANT AMONG WHICH FACT THAT PROMOTION OF AWARENESS WAS " TOO ACTIVE." PROPOSED REPETITIVE, DETAILED AMENDMENTS TO RES WHICH US. REP, WITH SUPPORT FROM SEVERAL DELEGATIONS, CHARACTERIZED AS ACTUALLY ALTERNATIVE RES.

13. INDIA CHALLENGED BRAZIL ON SEVERAL COUNTS INCLUDING LENGTH OF BRAZIL STATEMENT. HE SAID ECOSOC HAD HEARD VIRTUALLY THE SAME WORDS BEFORE AND HE SUGGESTED THE BUSINESS OF ECOSOC WOULD BE FACILITATED BY REFERRING TO RECORD OF LAST YEAR' S REMARKS BY BRAZIL AND THE INDIA REPLY. (COMMENT: BRAZIL APPEARS STEADILY MORE ISOLATED ON POPULATION MATTERS AND A GROWING NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS MANIFEST IMPATIENCE WITH BRAZIL ON THE ISSUE. INCREASINGLY, THERE ARE SIGNS THAT, AS NETHERLANDS REP REMARKED, A SENSE OF CONSENSUS IS EMERGING ON HOW TO DEAL WITH DEMOGRAPHIC PROBLEMS, AND THAT WHILE THE WORLD HAS NOT COME FULLY TO GRIPS WITH THE MATTER THE MOVE TO DO SO IS FOUND IN SUPPORT FOR UNFPA AND FOR THE WPC AS WELL AS IN SHIFTS IN COUNTRY ATTITUDES SUCH AS HAVE OCCURRED RECENTLY IN THE NETHERLANDS.)

14. THROUGHOUT DEBATE, SWEDISH DEL BEHING THE SCENE SOUGHT SUPPORT FOR POSITION WHICH WOULD LIMIT UNFPA TO ROLE OF " FINANCING INSTITUTION" AND WHICH WOULD PUT OFF DECISION
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ON POPULLATION IN UN SYSTEM UNTIL AFTER WPC. SWEDISH EFFORT PRODUCED EXTENSIVE LOBBYING IN WHICH MALAYSIA AND CO- SPONSORS MAINTAINED FIRM POSITION WITH SUPPORT FROM US., CANADA AND UK. SWEDISH AMENDMENT CIRCULATED BUT- NOT- INTRODUCED WAS CHARACTERIZED BY NEW ZEALAND AS OF DOUBTFUL MERIT. BEFORE SWEDISH MAENDMENT CIRCULATED, OTHER DELEGATIONS REFERRED TO NEED TO AVOID WATERING DOWN OR WEAKENING RES OF 11 SPONSORS.

15. US. DEL STATEMENT BEING REPORTED IN SEPARATE MESSAGE.

16. DEBATE CONTINUED AFTERNOON MAY 14.
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